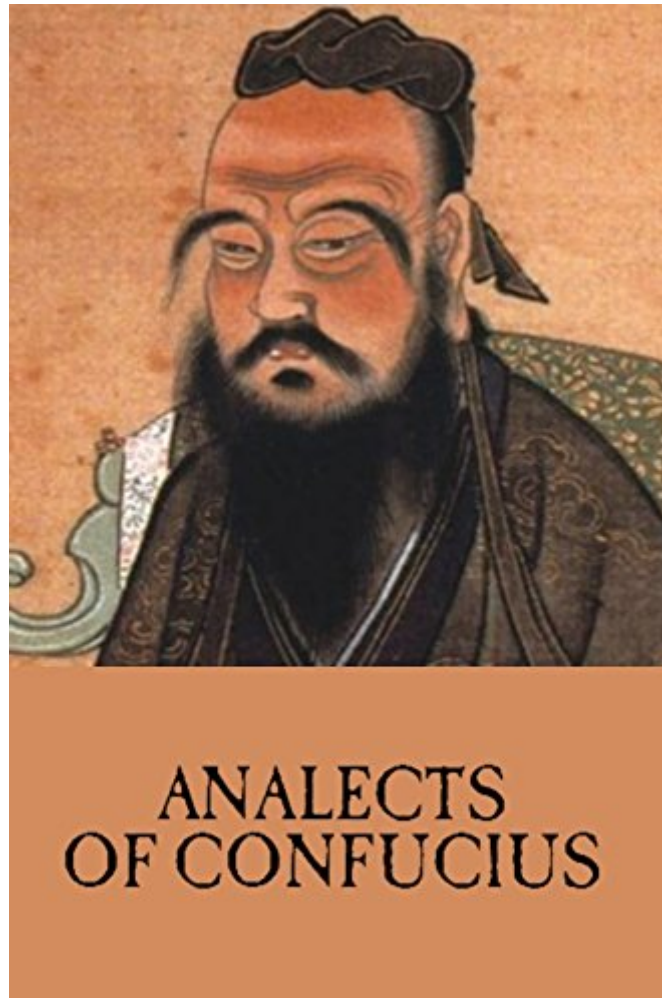


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The Analects (Illustrated)



Synopsis

Beautifully designed and carefully proofed for digital publication, this edition includes:â € 10 unique illustrations relevant to its content;â € Table of Contents with Quick Navigation.â €The Analectsâ €, or Lunyu (lit. "Selected Sayings"), also known as the â €Analects of Confuciusâ €, is the collection of sayings and ideas attributed to the Chinese philosopher Confucius and his contemporaries, traditionally believed to have been written by Confuciusâ €™ followers. It is believed to have been written during the Warring States period (475 BCâ €221 BC), and it achieved its final form during the mid-Han dynasty (206 BCâ €220 AD).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Analects, in case you were wondering, are "selected passages from the writings of an author.â € I mention this definition here because it seems that the only time we use the term â €analectsâ € is when we consider the writings of Confucius. Was there once a larger corpus of writings from Confucius, and is what we have today distilled from some larger body of work? If so, then I wish we had that entire larger body of philosophical work, the same way we have a good many books from classical Greek philosophers like Plato and Aristotle; but that being said, I certainly am glad that we have the Analects as a distillation of Confuciusâ €™ philosophy. His Chinese name was Kâ €™ung Fu-tzu, â €â€â€, and the Latinate name that he bears today was probably bestowed by Jesuit

missionaries to China in the 16th century. By any name, however, Confucius is a great philosopher who speaks to us today just as clearly as he spoke to the people of Chinese antiquity. He lived a long time ago â “ when he died in 479 B.C., the Spartan defense of Thermopylae had taken place just one year before â “ but it is astonishing how current and relevant his words and ideas remain.â œAnalectsâ • is, of course, a Latin- and Greek-derived term; in Chinese, the book is è«—è³ ,the "Lun Yǎ . It is divided into 20 books, and contains a total of 512 Confucian sayings, most of them quite short. On this re-reading of "The Analects," I encountered some sayings that were already familiar to me: e.g., â œTo say you know when you know, and to say you do not when you do not, that is knowledgeâ • (II.17, p. 65). Yet on this reading, I learned many things that I found new.

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